

USSN 09/928,594
Filed: August 13, 2001
AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1.-25. Cancelled.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of a wound comprising:
positioning on a first body surface an ultrasonic transducer having an operative surface in the vicinity of the wound;
emitting ultrasonic waves from the operative surface;
directing at least some of the ultrasonic waves toward a second surface of the body capable of reflecting ultrasonic waves; and
reflecting at least some of the emitted ultrasonic waves off of the second body surface and toward the wound such that at least some of the reflected ultrasonic waves contact the wound to promote healing thereof.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the second body surface comprises bone tissue.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein positioning the transducer includes positioning the transducer substantially adjacent a first layer of skin and wherein the second body surface comprises a second layer of skin.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting healing of a wound comprising:
positioning an ultrasonic transducer having an operative surface in the vicinity of the wound, wherein the ultrasonic transducer has an axis; and
emitting ultrasonic waves from the operative surface such that at least some of the ultrasonic waves contact the wound to promote healing thereof, wherein emitting ultrasonic waves from the operative surface comprises directing the at least some of the ultrasonic waves for contacting the wound to promote healing thereof toward an area offset from the axis.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the area is offset from the axis by a predetermined angle.

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31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the area offset from the axis contains at least a portion of the wound.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the area offset from the axis contains an ultrasonic reflective material.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the ultrasonic reflective material is a bone surface.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the ultrasonic reflective material is a skin surface.
35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the ultrasonic reflective material is an internally disposed reflective medium.
36. (Previously Presented) A method for promoting healing of a wound comprising:
positioning an ultrasonic transducer having an annularly-shaped operative surface in the vicinity of the wound; and
emitting ultrasonic waves from the operative surface, such that at least some of the ultrasonic waves propagate through tissue to contact the wound.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein positioning the transducer in the vicinity of the wound comprises substantially encircling the wound by the annularly-shaped operative surface.